

**MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL (GRADES 5-9)**

I. PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- A.** The principal shall hold a valid Missouri professional elementary or secondary, initial or advanced, principal's certificate;
- B.** The principal shall have a recommendation for certification as a middle school principal from the designated official of the college or university approved to train principals by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The recommendation shall be based upon the completion of the planned program;
- C.** The principal shall have earned undergraduate or graduate credit as follows:
 - 1.** Methods of Teaching Reading (minimum of five (5) semester hours to include one (1) course in Techniques of Teaching Reading in the Content Fields); and
 - 2.** Methods of Teaching Elementary Mathematics (minimum of two (2) semester hours); and
- D.** The principal shall have completed a planned program of at least six (6) semester hours in education courses focusing on: middle school philosophy, organization, and curriculum; and the intellectual, physiological, emotional and social development of the transescent child (10-14 year-old).